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Case Docket No. AKIOWAK.004A

Date: June 3, 2002

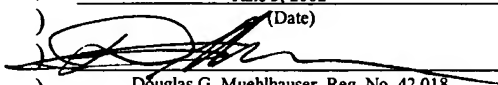
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Akio Wakabayashi, M.D.
Appl. No. : 10/084,689
Filed : February 26, 2002
For : APPARATUS AND METHOD
FOR SUTURING IN
RESTRICTED SPACE
Examiner : Unknown
Group Art Unit : 3731

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(Date)


Douglas G. Muehlhauser, Reg. No. 42,018

TRANSMITTAL LETTER


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Arlington, VA 22202

ATTENTION: APPLICATION BRANCH

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application are:

- (X) An Information Disclosure Statement.
- (X) A PTO Form 1449 with seven (7) references.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, which may be required to Account No. 11-1410.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.


Douglas G. Muehlhauser
Registration No. 42,018
Attorney of Record

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-----------|---|---------------------|
| Applicant | : Akio Wakabayashi, M.D. | Group Art Unit 3731 |
| App. No. | : 10/084,689 | |
| Filed | : February 26, 2002 | |
| For | : APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR SUTURING IN RESTRICTED SPACE | |
| Examiner | : Unknown | |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Dear Sir:

Enclosed is form PTO-1449 listing seven (7) references that are also enclosed. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the receipt of a first Office Action on the merits, and presumably no fee is required in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). If a first Office Action on the merits was mailed before the mailing date of this Statement, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 6/3/02

By: 

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FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
AKIOWAK.004AAPPLICATION NO.
10/084,689INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT

(USE SEVERAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)

APPLICANT
Akio Wakabayashi, M.D.FILING DATE
February 26, 2002GROUP
3731

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE (IF APPROPRIATE) |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------|--------------------------|-------|----------|---------------------------------|
| | 4,669,473 | 06/02/87 | Richards et al. | | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
|---------------------|-----------------|------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | YES | NO |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)

| EXAMINER INITIAL | |
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